CLAIMS

1. A luminescent device which uses as a luminescent material a binuclear copper coordination compound having a partial structure represented by the following general formula (1):

- wherein Cu is a monovalent copper ion; and each of A_1 to A_3 and A_1 , to A_3 , is selected from the group consisting of a nitrogen atom, a carbon atom, and a phosphorus atom.
 - The luminescent device according to claim
 1, wherein the copper coordination compound is represented by the following general formula (2):

20

wherein each of R₁, R₂, R₁, and R₂, is a branched or straight alkyl group in which a hydrogen atom is optionally substituted by a halogen and which has 10 or less carbon atoms, an aromatic ring group optionally having a substituent, a trimethylsilyl group, a dialkylamino group which is optionally substituted, or a diarylamino group; each of R_1 , R_2 , R_1 , and R_2 , may be the same or different; and N is an imine group on a heteroaromatic ring, and the

- 5 heteroaromatic ring is selected from the group consisting of a pyridine ring, a pyridazine ring, a pyrazine ring, a pyrimidine ring, a quinoline ring, an isoquinoline ring, a pyrazole ring, an azaquinoline ring, and an azaisoquinoline ring, and these rings may have a substituent.
 - 3. The luminescent device according to claim
 1, wherein the copper coordination compound is
 represented by the following general formula (3)

wherein each of R₃ and R₃, is a branched or straight alkyl group in which a hydrogen atom is optionally substituted with a halogen and which has 10 or less carbon atoms, an aromatic ring group optionally having a substituent, and a trimethylsilyl group; each of R₃ and R₃, may be the same or different; and N is an imine group on a heteroaromatic ring, and the heteroaromatic ring is selected from the group

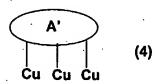
consisting of a pyridine ring, a pyridazine ring, a pyrazine ring, a pyrimidine ring, a quinoline ring, an isoquinoline ring, a pyrazole ring, an azaquinoline ring, and an azaisoquinoline ring, and these rings may have a substituent.

4. A luminescent device which uses as a luminescent material a trinuclear copper coordination compound having a partial structure represented by the following general formula (4):

10

15

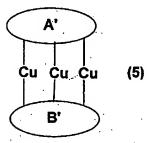
. . 5



wherein Cu is a copper ion and A' is a tridentate ligand.

5. The luminescent device according to claim 4, wherein the copper coordination compound has a partial structure represented by the following general formula (5):

20



25

wherein B^\prime is a tridentate ligand and may be the same as or different from A^\prime .

6. The luminescent device according to claim 1, wherein the copper coordination compound has a partial structure represented by the following general formula (6):

C (6)

5

7. The luminescent device according to claim 4, wherein the copper coordination compound has a partial structure represented by the following general formula (6)

10

25

C (6)

- 8. The luminescent device according to claim
 1, wherein the distance between copper atoms of the
 15 copper coordination compound is 3.2 Å or less.
 - 9. The luminescent device according to claim 4, wherein the distance between copper atoms of the copper coordination compound is 3.2 Å or less.
- 10. The luminescent device according to claim20 1, wherein copper of the copper coordination compound is a monovalent ion.
 - 11. The luminescent device according to claim
 4, wherein copper of the copper coordination compound
 is a monovalent ion.
 - 12. The luminescent device according to claim

- 1, wherein a luminescent layer contains a part of 100% of the copper coordination compound.
 - 13. The luminescent device according to claim
- 4, wherein a luminescent layer contains a part of
- 5 100% of the copper coordination compound.